THE HINDOO PATRIOT

With which is incorporated the Indian Field.

PUBLISHED EVERY MONDAY.

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THE WEEK.

MONDAY, 24TH MAY.

THE VICEROY held a levee on the evening of the 24th instant in celebration of the Queen's birthday.

BURMA during the rains is so seriously unhealthy that the troops will suffer a good deal as the season advances. The country, moreover, becomes flooded for the most part, and military operations will be largely retarded. 'Dacoity' is rampant more than ever, and we shall have a most critical time of it when the rains fairly set in. All possible precautions are being and will be taken, of course.

BRIGADIER-GENERAL Johnson, Commanding the Eastern District, Madras, will, it is understood, be appointed Inspector-General of Artillery in India.

THE GOVERNMENT of India have recommended to the Secretary of State that Russian be included among the languages in which officers can be examined in India. Russian officers have taken to the study of the Indian languages already for some time.

THE "TOM THUMB" of Burma has been brought down from Upper Burma, and is now being exhibited at Rangoon. His name is Moung Oung Myin; he was born in the district of Pelgee in Upper Burma. He is twenty-five years of age, three feet two inches in height, and weighs a hundred and ten pounds. During the reign of the late King, Moung Oung Myin was a *phoongyee*, but on the Theebaw's deportation he doffed the yellow robes. He should have taken lessons from his "Hairy Brethren" and learnt that exhibitioning of monsters now-a-days is not quite so profitable a job as it used to be in olden days.

A CORRESPONDENT with the expedition to the Bhamo frontier says that he passed, half-way between Paron and Shevay-Mo, some gold washers hard at work on a gravel bank. "The sand or gravel from which the gold is washed appeared, even to the naked eye, very rich in the metal. I noticed here that the large conglomerate rocks at our camping ground were rich in gold dust, and fifty yards further up, I found a rich vein of bright red clay which our boatmen used in lieu of putty for repairing their boats." The dreams of the sanguine "Shoppers" are being outdreamt, it would appear.

COLONEL LOCKHART and party are, according to the latest news received, still at Gilghit.

SAYS THE Allahabad paper:—"As regards Mr. Macaulay's Mission, which may or may not lead to the diversion of the Lhassa trade from the Nepal-Calcutta to the Darjeeling-Calcutta route, the intention of the Government of India is to make such arrangements with Tibetan authorities as will enable *native* traders from India to settle in Lhassa and other trade centres north of the Himalayas, there to stimulate commerce with India. Jealousy of the presence of Europeans in Tibet is well known to sway all the acts of the Lhassa Durbar; but this jealousy is not shown to Asiatics. At present the Nepalese have the monopoly of such trade as exists, and Indian traders are practically unknown in the Tibetan bazars. If the mission be a success, we are sure there are enterprising native merchants in Calcutta and elsewhere who will recognise the advantages of having a new market in which to operate, free from European competition; and they are not likely to hang back if the Government can smooth away the difficulties, physical and political, which now hinder direct communication between Tibet and India." If the expedition is objectionable at all and on principle, it does not matter in the least whether it would be in the interest of the "natives" or non-"natives." It should be the duty of Government to avoid further complications and responsibilities scrupulously. The "natives" are not much accustomed to the kindness of having projects undertaken solely and exclusively for their benefit, and we would not wonder much if they were slow to accept our contemporary's assurance. The natives are an excellent stuff for "smoothing down difficulties," and may be very serviceable, acting as the thin and unobjectionable end of the wedge.

IT IS STATED by the *Mufassilite* that H. H. the Maharaja of Gwalior will shortly visit Mussoorie for the benefit of his health, and will probably occupy "Claremont," the property of Sir Michael Filose.

WHAT seems to be the finest specimen of an ancient British vessel ever discovered has been recently dug out near Brigg in Lincolnshire. While engaged in excavating at the Brigg gasworks some workmen came upon a large boat embedded in the clay, some three or four feet below the surface. On the boat being bared, it was found to be 48ft. long, 4ft. 4in. wide, and 2ft 9in. deep. As a monument of the labours of the early inhabitants of the country the vessel is unique. A circle had been marked out in a field adjoining the gasworks for a new holder, and, marvellous to state, it embraced the whole of this vessel. When two or three feet of the soil and marine warp had been excavated the head of the vessel presented itself. It was not known to be other than a piece of oak, and was consequently damaged to some slight extent; it was followed up and found to be a boat whereon careful excavation ensued.

TUESDAY, 25TH MAY.

THE *Times of India* says that Maharaja Duleep Singh's eldest son will remain at Aden with his father, and that the Maharani and the rest of the family returned to Europe in the P. and O. S. S. *Mirzapore* on the 7th instant. The word "remain" means that the Maharaja is under arrest or "disloyalty" in issuing his inflamatory address to the Sikhs.

THE usual interesting ceremony, in the course of which the Emperor of Austria washes the feet of twelve old men, and afterwards serves at dinner, took place in the Imperial Palace at Vienna on the 22nd ultimo. The old men varied in age from 89 to 94. Owing to the absence of the Empress, the same ceremony with twelve old women did not take place. Right Hindu customs these, and young Bengal may perceive that his unphilosophic and irrational grand-fathers who took pride in washing their Guru's feet and feed him afterwards sumptuously, were not fools after all, since a civilized monarch and his spouse consider it not beneath their dignity to do something closely similar.

IT IS SAID that the large deficit in Sir W. Hercourts' budget is wholly owing to the decrease of drinking in England. During the year 1885 the excise revenue from intoxicating drinks fell off *fifteen millions of rupees*. This indicates an enormous decrease of drinking and of drunkenness. It has been going on for more than ten years, and at an accelerating pace. The largest reduction in a single year has been that for the year just past. This would suggest the idea that the people of England are steadily, even though not very rapidly, becoming more temperate. But there are more factors in the case than are apparent on the surface.

THE chief manufacture of Panjdeh, writes a correspondent, is carpet. The carpets are made entirely by women, and really the best are so fine that they are more fitted for table-cloths than for coverings for the floor. Every girl is supposed to make the carpets for her husband's *kibitkas* before he marries, though how she does it I don't know, as it is supposed to take five women about eight months to make one of their usual large-sized carpets. The richer families generally hire the services of the wives and daughters of their poorer neighbours to assist them in the manufacture of their carpets; and probably it is only the rich members of the tribe who attempt the manufacture of the fine silk carpets and bags with which the best kibitkas are ornamented. The wool they use is first steeped and washed in alum water, and then dyed with dyes imported from Bokhara; but the silk used is purchased already dyed from Bokhara.

THE Chicago *Tribune*, referring to the remarriage of Mr. Edison and his prolific inventions, concludes that his genius will now be directed to electric candles, electric machines to get up and walk the baby in the middle of the night, electric devices for cutting teeth and scaring off hooping cough, croup and measles, and will contrive other articles for mitigating the troubles, trials, and petty annoyances usual in domestic life.

THERE appears to be a possibility that diamonds of the genuine water may yet become a regular article of manufacture. A newly invented electric furnace is the possible medium of crystallising the carbon. Some day a combination of circumstances may lead to accidental formation of the diamond in the furnace, says *Industrial America*, and then it will be necessary to study the causes leading to this result. It may now appear as visionary, but we certainly should not be surprised to hear of the formation of diamonds in the electrical furnace, which affords the means for imitating the processes by which nature has turned out the Koh-i-Noor from her laboratory.

WEDNESDAY, 26TH MAY.

A BOTANIST of Pondicherry has made a discovery which will afford poppy planters an opportunity of realising some more profit from their crops. He has found that the poppy seed contains saccharine matter which, after fermentation and distillation, produces a kind of spirit or brandy of an agreeable flavour. The opium-eater will now, by reason of consanguinity, have less reason for holding a wine-bibler in abhorence, and *vice versa*.

THE Persian paper, *Shems*, hears from Kabul that forts at Herat and Balkh are being constructed by 3,000 workmen under the supervision of English officers and engineers, and both these towns will be connected by a good road which will pass through Maimana, and that Maimana will in its turn be also strengthened. To the same end it is proposed to construct a canal from Balkh to the Amu Daria, a distance of several miles, so that in case of need the ditch encircling the town may be flooded. Is the story about English officers true?

Truth seems to think that a British jury is a particularly susceptible body. It tells us that Mrs. Bartlett is a pretty woman with frizzly hair and blue eyes, which eyes she raised during her recent trial "with such effect upon the male sex that even if the evidence had been stronger against her than it was, only a jury of women could have convicted her." This is as much to say as that a woman's immunity from the penalty of crime varies according to the color of her eyes. Not a bad hit this.

THE case of Colonel Hooper, having been duly reported on by the Commander-in-Chief, in connection with the report of the Court of Inquiry, is now before the Government of India for orders. We know nothing abount the contents of the report, but we do not hesitate to give the straight tip: Moylan comes in second.

A movement has been initiated in the North-West, which has for its object the raising of a fund sufficient to enable pupils of the Mussoorie Boys' and Girls' Schools to be kept at school and complete their education, in the event of their losing their fathers or widowed mothers during their period of pupilage.

THE Roorkee Workshops are at last to be given up by Government. As Mr. Angus Campbell's term of service for a pension has been completed, the North-West Provinces Government will take the opportunity of relieving the State of the burden of maintaining an institution that was a source of loss to it. The outturn of work was never profitable. The whole stock and block is in the market, and the Lahore paper hears that a firm of Engineers from Bombay are treating for their purchase. Government was not justified in expecting remunerative returns from institutions kept up for educational purposes, and the readiness of a firm of Engineers to take them up for profit shows that the Government management was not sound.

A WRITER in the *China Review*, in describing the tribe of Paiwans of Formosa, says that children only three years old may be seen chewing betelnut, smoking tobacco, and, worse still, drinking arrack to intoxication. The betel and tobacco did not apparently do much harm; but since the art of brewing has been learnt from the Chinese, arrack has become an article of daily consumption. Tender children are allowed to consume as much as they please, with lamentable effect, as it appears to stunt their growth and cause a dropsical distention of the abdomen. A child allowed to drink this liquor seldom attains the age of 15. Unless this habit is given up, the race will have but a short existence.

IT IS reported that the mental condition of the King of Bavaria has become such as to render the appointment of a Council of Regency necessary.

THE ENGLISH Commission of Inquiry appointed to investigate M. Pasteur's method of protection against hydrophobia—composed of Sir Henry Roscoe, M. P. Dr. Lauder Blunton, Sir James Paget, Sir Joseph Lister, Dr. Burdon Sanderson, Professor of Physiology in the University of Oxford, Dr. Richard Quaint, and Surgeon General Fleming—have entered into communication with M. Pasteur. The members of the commission at present in Paris are Sir Henry Roscoe, Dr. Lauder Brunton, Dr. Burdon Sanderson, and Mr. Horsley, the Secretary.

THURSDAY. 27TH MAY.

WE TAKE the following from an interesting article on London Bachelors in the *Leisure Hour* for May: "Between the ages of fifteen andtwenty there were in London in 1881, only 924 married men and 13 widowers; the rest—170,722 in all—were bachelors. The number of bachelors above the age of twenty was 291,828. This gives a grand total of 462,550 unmarried men who have their home in the great metropolis. Let us see what this number really represents. Supposing for imperial purposes it were resolved to return to what we have mentioned was once the case, and tax bachelors; a tax of half a crown a head on the London ones would bring to the revenue no less than 57,811*l.* 15*s*. It might, however, be rather a hard-hearted proceeding to lay such a burden on those between fifteen and twenty; but, even omitting them, a two-and-sixpenny licence for freedom issued to the rest would result in a profit to the exchequer of 36,478*l.* 10*s*. And supposing all the bachelors, rising in rebellion against the tax, were mustered in single file, each man occupying the regulation space of 21 inches, the line would extend to the formidable length of 152 miles. Government would surely never be so bold in the case as to insist on its demands; but if it were, and if the bachelors, in fighting nobly for their half-crowns, were all slain by the married men and buried end to end in a narrow trench, the trench would have to be dug over 400 miles long, or say fromLondon far into Scotland." There is no reason, however, to apprehend any thing so disastrous. Half a Crown a year is infinitely cheaper than the cost of gloves alone for wives. By the way, in the event of the contagion spreading to India what would become of our reformers *in re* widow remarriage?

A REPORTER on the *Gaulois* has interviewed the Bavarian Charge d'Affaires on the subject of the reported intervention of the Bavarian Chamber as to the debts of the King. That gentleman says the deficit amounts to two or three millions, caused by costly building enterprises and extravagant upholsterers' bills. The Chamber has no intention of intervening, and there is no necessity for its doing so. The debt itself will extinguish in a short time, for the King has given up his building projects, and his personal expenses beyond them are insignificant.

AN AMERICAN gentleman, an ex-member of Congress, a scholar, and the author of two very popular books, claims to have made an astounding discovery. He says he has discovered, running through the folio edition of 1623 of Shakespeare's Plays, a cipher narrative in which Bacon claims their authorship, and gives an account of his own life and of the Court History during the period of his greatness. "Why," asks Mr. Donnelly, the American gentleman in question, "Why should I assert that I have found such a cipher—not a hop-skip-and-jump cipher, but a mathematically accurate rule, if I have not? I ask no money from any one." If, however, the cipher proves, as he alleges, "to be so simple and clear that any one with a reprint of the folio can decipher the plays for himself." But we are not going to do that just yet, and unfortunately the key is not yet forthcoming. Within a few weeks he has promised to bring the results of his labours to England. Then his cipher can be tested, and an opinion pronounced.

OWING to the approach of the monsoon the port of Cochin has been officially closed till the end of September.

THE FLOODS at Montreal are slowly subsiding. The merchants in the city now estimate the loss of property at 10,000,000 dols.

AMONG the ruins at Anuradhapura, Ceylon, has been found a Roman copper coin of Theodosius I., struck in A. D. 386 at Heracles. A reference to Tennent's "Ceylon" shows that Roman coins were introduced into Ceylon by the Greek merchant Sopater, about a hundred years subsequent to the date at which this coin was struck. But Levantine merchants, trading to Asia, came to Ceylon long before that, Tennent or no Tennent.

ANOTHER attempt, is to be made to obtain water for Madras by an artesian well to be sunk in the Kortalayar basin, near the head of the Canal at present used for conducting water into the Red Hills tank. Monsieur de Closets, who was successful with similar wells at Pondicherry, has entered into an agreement with the Government to sink a well 60 feet deep at a cost of Rs. 400, and he considers that, if he is successful in finding water, the supply of drinking water to Madras will be increased by three millions of gallons daily.

FRIDAY, 28TH MAY.

THE RUSSIAN Press give some further particulars about General Komaroff's recent visit to Panjdeh. The General, who was accompanied by Colonel Tevaschoff as his chief of the staff distributed freely along his route khillats in the name of the Czar. He visited Maruchak and Tash Kepri, and returned across the steppe to Sarakhs. It has now been definitely decided to push on the Trans-Caspian railway as fast as possible to the Oxus. Various commissions have been sitting to decide upon the proper type of vessel for navigating the Amu Daria; and at last, after several disagreements it is officially announced that two steamers belonging to the State are very shortly to be launched on this river with the special object of co-operating with the Trans-Caspian railway.

DURING the month of March, 463 emigrants, of whom 316 were males and 147 females, left Calcutta for Fiji.

SOME designing persons have been trying tricks upon one of the Jodhpur Chiefs. Letters purporting to come from the Foreign Office, and seriously impugning the Chief's character, have been placed in the hands of the Calcutta Police, who are investigating the affair.

THE HINDOOS of Bombay were determined that the Parsees should not have a monopoly of loyal demonstration in connection with theQueen-Empress's Birthday. The announcement that some Parsee gentlemen had arranged for a concert, at which the National authen in various vernaculars were to be sung, was followed by a notice that it was proposed to hold a meeting of the Hindoo inhabitants at the Madho Bag at 3 P. M. on Monday, at which the Marathi version of the National Anthem and some Marathi verses composed specially for the occasion would be sung. Prayers were offered for Her Majesty's long life and prosperity, and speeches made in Marathi, Guzerati, and Hindustani, expressive of the blessings of the British rule. Passages from the Purans on the duties of kings and their subjects were read and explained, and a *kirtan* performed. Alms were distributed to the poor. The celebrated blind Hindoo poet, Guttulal, was present and took part in the proceedings.

THE FINANCE Committee at Simla are said to have lately enquired of the Judges of the Calcutta Small Cause Court as to what reductions they are prepared to make in the expenditure of the Court. The Judges have pointed out in reply, that since Act XV of 1882, or the new Small Cause Court Act, came into operation, the work in the various departments of the Court has greatly increased, and that, notwithstanding that circumstance, they have not yet ventured to ask Government for an increase of office establishment sufficient to cope with the work. They have also submitted statements to the Committee showing the number of hands employed in each department of the Court, and the amount of work performed by them, together with the cost of maintaining the establishment. The Judges are said to be of opinion that no reduction of expenditure can be effectually made unless some particular departments are abolished. The Calcutta Chamber of Commerce, on the other hand, have memorialised Government for addition to the judicial staff, and the recommendation of the High Court Judges who visited the Small Cause Court lately, run we believe in the same direction. The High Court would be an infinitely better field for the application of the spears.

THE STATISTICAL tables referring to Joint Stock Companies registered in India up to the 1st March, 1885, show that the total number of companies then working was 696, as many as 751 companies registered under the Companies' Act having either wound up or otherwise discontinued business, or never commenced it. So that, almost every second Joint Stock Company was a failure. 232 of these companies are in Bengal,174 inBombay (104 being cotton mills or presses), 158 in Madras (115 being banks), 35 in Mysore (50 being banks),42 in the N.W. Provinces and Oudh, 17 in the Punjab, 16 in British Burmah, and 2 in the Central Provinces. The number of companies increased during the year by 7¼ per cent. Mr. O'Conor estimates the sum now invested in the cotton spinning industry at upwards of ten crores of rupees; but the returns are incomplete, as ten of the mills are worked by private proprietors.

SATURDAY, 29TH MAY.

"DIVORCES are getting quite fashionable in Scotland says *Truth*. The number of decrees granted last year by the Court of Session was the highest on record, being an increase of fourteen over the number during 1884. The average number of decrees between 1864 and 1874 was thirty-five; but in the following five years the average rose to fifty-nine, while last year there were no fewer than eighty-five cases of divorce. In forty-seven cases the wife was the petitioner.

THE Lahore paper feels that there is every possibility of a scene between the impecunious indigo-planter and the Collector (now for once rightly so called) such as is picturesquely described by Mrs. Carlyle in the letters published by Mr. Froude. Ushered into a dim room "where three men sat round a large table spread with papers," she was met with the challenge—"what does Mr. Carlyle mean by saying he has no income from his writing;" how in fact did he *live* without making any income? When she produced the "prescribed statement," Rhadamanthus, as she aptly calls the "cock of that dungheap," demanded to be informed—"what has Mr. Carlyle to live upon; you don't mean to tell me he lives upon *that*"? pointing to the document. And the final result is so ludicrously similar to the usual order passed on Licence Tax appeals, that we cannot refrain from quoting. "Tax off fifty pounds, say a hundred; take off a hundred pounds, if we write Mr. Carlyle down at a hundred and fifty, he has no reason to complain!" The whole assessment is in fact, in England as in India, guess work; and though there may be many who do put down faithfully all their "sources of income or profits," bound by their sense of honour or frightened by the terrible penalties at the foot of the notice, there must be a multitude who think it no shame to outwit the assessing officer, who will in the case of Europeans, as well as of natives, have to arrive at a purely conjectural assessment, consoling himself with the idea of the assessee "having no right to complain." It would perhaps be a useful addition if the law permitted the assessing officer to put the assessee on his oath in special cases. A man may care little what he signs his name to in the way of a statement, but he would think twice about perjuring himself in open Court; and the mere possibility of his being liable to be so called on, would be sufficient to suggest his giving a correct statement at first. The Act is, however, to be worked without "friction or unnecessary inquisition into people's affairs."

ON THE 16th of April Sir Thomas Erskine May tendered his resignation of the office of Clerk of the House. "I feel," wrote he, "that my strength is no longer equal to the continued strain of a laborious session." At the end of more than half a century of continuous service, he had good reasons to retire with honour from the scene of his labours; and the Premier spoke no more than was absolutely true, when he said "his memory will be held in honour by us and by our successors for a long series of years." In the second parliament of the reign of King William IV, Sir Thomas May was nominated by Mr. Manners Sutton, then Speaker, Assistant Librarian of the House of Commons. From that time the lad of sixteen turned his attention to what was destined to be the great work of his life:—"*A Treatise on the Law, Privileges, Proceedings, and Usages of Parliament.*" Thirteen years later the book appeared, and was accepted as a standard authority on the matters with which it dealt, not only by the English Parliament, but by many other Legislatures, foreign and colonial. Shortly afterwards the Assistant Librarian was appointed to the post of Examiner for Petitions for Private Bills; then after some years of service as Taxing Master of the House of Commons, he was, in 1856, promoted to be Clerk-Assistant of the House. During those years he had prepared and published the first part of his "*Constitutional History of England from the Accession of George III.*" In 1860 he was made a Companion of the Bath, Knight Commander six years later, and a comparatively short time ago, was sworn of the Privy Council. The legitimate recognition of his labours should have been elevation to the well-dowered ease of the chair of the Clerk of the House of Lords; but the post had been otherwise bestowed during the brief rule of the Conservatives, by a family arrangement which brought honour neither to recipient or giver. So, Sir Thomas May, after an entire life time spent in the service of his country, retired into private life to die a short month later. His experience covered the birth and death of thirteen parliaments, from the first Reform Bill of 1823 to that of 1885.

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THE TOTAL number of deaths registered during the week ending May 22nd was 151 against 150 and 163 in the 2 preceding weeks, and 71 less than the correspondent weeks of last year. There were 15 deaths from cholera against 7 and 18 in the 2 preceding weeks. The number is less than the average of the quinquennium by 35. The deaths from fever and bowel complaints amounted to 38 and 16 against 49 and 17 in the preceding weeks. The general health of the town is good, the date rate of the week being 18·1 per mille per annum against 28·6 the mean of the last five years.

The Hindoo Patriot.

MONDAY, MAY 31, 1886.

THE LAST ENTRANCE EXAMINATION.

IN theory Matriculation is the testing of the fitness of a boy to benefit by collegiate tuition—the ascertainment that he has acquired enough of the rudiments of knowledge to be able to follow the lectures of the teachers in a college This test is scarcely necessary in Europe. The vernacular is the medium of instruc-, tion there, and as no one, it is believed would pay the usual fee and enter a college who was not sufficiently grounded to make the most of his attendance, the fee alone is held to be a sufficient check to overcrowding, and Matriculation has, in most Universities, degenerated into a mere formality. In the Edinburgh University the rule says, "University Matriculation consists in a student signing the Sponsio Academica by entering his name in the General Roll of Students of the University, and in paying a fee of £1 for one year, commencing in October, or a fee of 10s. for the Summer Session, commencing in May." This is, likewise, the case at Oxford and Cambridge, though the fees there are heavier in amount. It is different in the London University. That being a purely examining and not a teaching body, Matriculation examination is deemed necessary as a preparatory step to subsequent examinations. But the test is simple, and leads to nothing like the annual slaughter which we have to mourn here. The theory of overcrowding the class rooms and harassing the Professors and teachers is the merest plea, and has no practical bearing at all. It appears that at the Edinburgh University there were, in 1884-85, no less than 3,372 matriculations out of a total population of 3 millions, not to reckon those at Glasgow, St. Andrews and Aberdeen Universities, and still there was no crowding or hampering. The fact is, at the Edinburgh University, as in most other British Universities, the Professors and teachers have to depend principally on the fees paid by the students for their income, and therefore they never complain of overcrowding; for the more students they get the better for them. In India the pay being fixed, irrespective of the number of the students taught, there is a natural tendency to shirk labour, to reduce the number of the students as much as possible. It is true the mode of teaching being by lectures the only difference to teachers between a large and a small class is that of speaking loud in one case and low in the other; but even that is something, and the inclination is to avoid the loud speaking as much as possible. Admitting, however, for the sake of argument and not as a fact, that Bengali boys, totally or partially unfit for collegiate education, would, if not checked, pay heavy fees and rush into our colleges to the annoyance of the professors, and that an Entrance examination is necessary to serve as a regulator or governor, the question arises—what should the character of that examination be? The Calcutta University is founded on the model of the London University, and the Entrance Examination in it should be the counterpart of what obtains in the archetype. Such, however, is not the case. The examination here is greatly more rigorous, and it leads to a denial of higher education to a great number of our rising generation. This has been the subject of our complaint for a long time, and we are sorry to have to notice that the evil is greatly on the increase. The average of pluckings, with one exception, ever since the foundation of the University thirty years ago, has been 45 to 55 per cent. It rose to nearly 67 per cent. last year, and this year we have to mourn a wholesale slaughter (we cannot use a milder term) of 3,056 candidates out of a total of 4,393, or within a fraction of 70 per cent. What can be the cause of this failure? It cannot be attributed to any falling off in our schools. Generally speaking they are as efficient now as they have hitherto been. No blight has passed over the intellect of the rising generation. There can be no rush of ill-prepared boys to the examination room, for there is a previous examination, and every candidate has to produce a certificate from the head of a college or school, testifying that the candidate had passed that examination and had been found to possess sufficient learning to have reasonable prospect of passing the Entrance examination, and it would be a positive libel against the heads of over 800 schools and colleges to say that they had granted certificates to unfit candidates. They have been always circumspect in giving certificates, and the idea of an epidemic of dishonesty among them during the last eighteen months is too absurd to think of. The only other cause of the failure that can be thought of lies in the nature of the examination. It has either been made more severe, or there has been an ultra-rigorous system of marking adopted. The universal opinion last year was that the fault lay with the examiners, and no less a personage than the Lieutenant-Governor of the North-Western Provinces set forth in an official minute that the failure was due to the action of the Examiners. An enquiry held by a special Committee of the Senate also admitted the fact. The Committee were obviously averse to make the enquiry. Though the resolution appointing them distinctly laid down that their only duty was to enquire into the causes which led to the failure, they evaded it (rather disingenuously) by saying "we deem it to be beyond our province to enter into speculations as to the causes to which the unusually large number of failures at the last Entrance Examination may be attributed." They had nothing to do with the Syndicate, but they went out of their way to record an eulogium on them, even at the sacrifice of good taste and sense of delicacy, for an eulogium from Mr. Ilbert to the glorification of the Syndicate was practically an eulogium on himself, he being the chairman and a member of that body. Notwithstanding their earnest desire to defend the executive, the Committee had to admit the substantial accuracy of four of the charges brought against the Examiners. They admitted that certain questions in the English and History papers were, to use their mitigated and euphemistic language, "open to criticism." They admitted that some of the Arabic questions were taken from other than the authorised text-books. They were "disposed to think that the mathematical papers were somewhat long, and would recommend that in future, if it is thought desirable to set a greater number of questions than can be reasonably expected to be answered within the time allotted, the candidates be informed that full marks would be given for correct answers to a specified proportion of the questions." They had to confess, likewise, that there were irregularities in marking some of the answer papers. Even before the writing out of this report the Syndicate were convinced that the examination had not been properly conducted; and, with a view to secure greater care and vigilance, made many material alterations in the rules for examination. We did not expect much good from the alterations, and we felt that the report of the Special Committee, written with a strong leaning for the protection of certain vested interests, would frustrate every thing, and the result of this year's examination shows that our apprehensions were well founded. The question papers of this year are open to almost all the objections which were urged last year. "To Bengali boys the two most fatal subjects," said the late Mr. Sutcliffe, when he was Director of Public Instruction, "are English and Mathematics," and in both these branches the questions were highly objectionable. The rule says that the enquiry should be limited to the knowledge of the candidates in ENGLISH AS SPOKEN IN ITS ORDINARY SIMPLE FORM, and the questions take for granted that a knowledge of Teutonic vocables and classic roots come under this definition. To depart from the abstract to the concrete. The question papers in English of the London University, intended principally for English boys whose vernacular is English, is far easier than what our Syndicate have thought fit to put to Bengali boys whose mother tongue is the very antipode of English. It would be easy to demonstrate this by putting the two sets of questions in parallel columns, but we have no space to spare for the purpose. In June 1885 the London University set fifteen questions in all, but in a *nota bene* attached to the paper it stated that "not more than ten questions are to be attempted;" and for them full marks would be allowed. The ten questions cover just one duodecimo page. In Calcutta there were assigned 19 questions, all of which were expected to be answered, and they cover five 8vo pages.

It would scarcely be an exaggeration to say that the framer of the questions set before him, not the task of getting up questions to test the knowledge of the candidates in English in its ordinary simple form, but of devising Chinese puzzles to display his own superior ingenuity or scholarship. To prove this we shall, even at the risk of vexing our readers, cite an illustration. The 7th question runs thus: "Rewrite the following sentences, substituting in (a) words or expressions of Teutonic origin, and in (b) words or expressions of classical origin for the words in italics, the sense being preserved. (a). The Jews are so *disseminated* through all the *commercial* nations of the *universe* that they are become the *instruments* by which the *most distant countries mutually converse*." (We omit (*b*) for want of space.) If boys fail to grapple with such questions the fault rests not with them, but with their tormentors. One complaint against the last year's examination was that questions were taken from particular hand-books or guides perpared by the Examiners, which were not authorised text-books, but a want of knowledge of which led to failures. The Special Committee took no particular note of it, and it cropped up with disastrous effect this year. There were several questions set which could not be answered by those who had not read Messrs. Rowe and Webb's 'Hints' which was not an authorised text-book (and Mr. Rowe was the Head Examiner). A resolution of the Syndicate ordains that two-thirds of the questions in Geometry should be book-work, but the questions as framed contained only one-fourth of book-work and three-fourths of deductions or riders in such very dubious forms that very few boys could make them out, and when the irregularity was brought to the notice of the Syndicate, Mr. Ashton, the Examiner, we are told, admitted the fact, and promised that "allowance shall be made in the marking." Notwithstanding the recommendation of the Special Committee the candidates had this year again to complain of the mathematical papers being too long. They complain, too, of the History, Geography, and the Sanskrit papers. The last is certainly much more difficult than the corresponding Latin papers. This has been the case for several years, and many Bengali boys have taken to Latin in preference to Sanskrit on the sole ground of its not being so exacting. Indeed, an opinion prevails among our boys that the Latin paper is made easy for European boys, and the Sanskrit is made difficult for the grinding of Bengali boys. We repudiate this idea as totally false, but we do think that the University Examiners should not give cause for such a prejudice gaining ground. There is a rumour, too, that one of the Head Examiners returned to his subordinates some papers which had not been rigorously numbered; but we believe this is a misrepresentation of a simple business transaction. The Geography paper this year was disfigured by two misprints. Anyhow, it is obvious that the Head Examiners, who were, we believe, the framers of the questions, have failed in grasping the purport of the cardinal principles laid down for their guidance in regard to the English language and Mathematics, and that the Moderators failed in their duty. The complaint against the Examiners for their erratic tendencies is of many years' standing. In 1879 it became so obtrusive that the Senate was compelled to adopt a resolution requesting the Syndicate "to enquire whether any, and if so what

steps should be taken with the view of securing greater uniformity in the standard of examination in all subjects." A circular was thereupon sent to the Heads of Affiliated Institutions requesting their opinion. The opinions so obtained were digested by Messrs. Tawney and Elliot, and their suggestion was "that the Syndicate shall depute two of their members to superintend the examinations," and they shall be called Moderators. This was adopted in September 1879. In the language of the report of the two gentlemen named, "The duties of the Moderators shall be to scrutinise, in consultation with the Registrar, the papers of Examiners before they are printed or lithographed, and to revise, in consultation with the same officer, the lists of passed candidates before they are published in the *Gazette*. * * * The Moderators, in consultation with the Registrar, shall be empowered to omit or insert questions in examination papers, to alter the wording of questions, and to pass students who have failed in one subject only in an examination by the addition of grace marks." We have had Moderators appointed regularly every year since 1880, and the question is, have they done their duty faithfully? If so, how is it that the Geometry paper of this year is so defective as to compel even the framer of it to say that "allowance shall be made in the marking" for the defects? Did not the Moderators notice these defects, or noticing them revise them? It may be all very well for Messrs. Ilbert, Ghose, and Reynolds to certify that the Syndicate had done their duty satisfactorily; but the fact remains that three members of the Syndicate as representatives of that body did allow to pass the irregularities which the Special Committee had to admit did take place last year; and this year we have one of the Examiners admitting certain defects. The inevitable inference from these facts is that the cause of the failure this year rests primarily with the Examiners who framed the questions, and secondarily, with the Syndicate through their representatives, who allowed improper questions to be set and three thousand innocent boys denied for a year,(many have been denied for ever,) the opportunity to carry on their studies. We may have another Special Committee, and another certificate of exoneration; but those who have been grievously wronged can have no redress.

We notice that an attempt has been made in one of the papers to divert public attention by throwing the blame of the last failure to want of good faith on the part of Heads of schools and colleges in granting certificates. The Heads represent some 800 gentlemen of the highest education and unimpeachable character, and we decline to listen to the charge, particularly as it proceeds from an Examiner who has to free himself from the charge of failure of duty. We entertain great respect for the gentleman in question, and are really sorry to notice that he should have stooped so low as to exonerate himself and his colleagues.

THE SIMLA ALLOWANCE CODE.

THE native clerks who accompany the Government of India offices to Simla have a substantial grievance, which demands redress. Before 1878, Government used to provide all clerks with free quarters. In that year the system was to a certain extent altered and new rules were issued relating to Simla allowances. As regards house-rent the new rules required clerks to submit bills for the sum actually expended by them and *bona fide* for their accomodation at Simla, provided that the amount claimed did not exceed the scale laid down in the table which was appended to the Rules. This system was, however, abandoned in 1871. The Government of India held that the *bona fide* expense system introduced in 1870 demoralized the clerks, as it was found that false certificates had been submitted in some cases; and that under that system economy was impossible, because the knowledge that a certain amount of allowance could be obtained from Government naturally led the clerks to be more extravagant in their arrangements than they would otherwise be. The fixed allowance system was continued till 1884. In that year the Simla Municipality made certain representations to Government regarding the then existing water-supply of the station, and a Committee was appointed to consider these questions. The Committee, in their report, recommended a revision of the rules relating to Simla allowances with a view to give each Government employe the sum actually spent by him in house-rent up to the limit of the maximum grant admissible under the rules. It was argued in support of this recommendation, that native clerks crowded together in damp, ill-ventillated houses in the Simla Bazar in order to save the greater portion of the liberal allowances on account of house-rent received by them from the Government, and that the over-crowding rendered the out-break of epidemic diseases likely. The Committee further represented that the Simla Municipality could not be held responsible for such an occurrence, as it was not in its power to remedy the over-crowding which prevailed amongst the native clerks living in the Bazar.

The suggestions made by the Committee were, not adopted by Government as it did not believe the allegation about over-crowding among native clerks. The Committee, however, was not to be baulked in this way. The members of the Committee in their individual capacity set on foot an agitation on the subject; and the unfortunate occurrence of several fatal cases of typhoid fever, erysipelas and small-pox among the native clerks living in the Simla Bazar at that time greatly favoured the views of the agitators. The Civil Surgeon and the Assistant Surgeon of the station were asked to inspect the houses in which the native clerks lived, and to report on the alleged over-crowding. These gentlemen merely looked into a few houses which were known to be over-crowded, and submitted a hasty and one-sided report. They did not consider it their duty to examine the hundreds of houses in the neighbourhood in which native clerks were decently and comfortably accommodated. After this farce of an inspection the sanitary officers came to the conclusion that the over-crowding among native clerks was disgraceful, and recorded their opinion that some stringent rules must be framed to prevent the misappropriation of house-rent allowances. Strange to say, the sanitary officers, in drawing up their report, conveniently over-looked the fact that in the cholera epidemic which had broken out at Simla four or five years previously, the only sufferers were Europeans and Eurasians, and that there was not a single case amongst the natives, although the latter then lived in worse houses in the Bazar than in 1884. As the report did not represent the actual facts of the case, and clearly show what proportion the native clerks lived in houses that were over-crowded, no action should have been taken upon it.

The Government of India, however, thought differently. A Committee of Secretaries was appointed to consider the report submitted by the Sanitary Officers. This Committee, after a few minutes' conversation, came to the conclusion that the native clerks should be required to live in barracks built by Government, actual house-rent, not exceeding the maximum admissible under the rules being given to those who might not be provided with free quarters in the barracks, or who might live with their families. This recommendation was at once adopted by the Government, and the rules in the Simla Allowance Code were accordingly altered. It should be remembered that the barracks in which the clerks were required to live are the very buildings which were condemned by a Committee in 1879, they being quite unsuited to native habits and requirements, especially to those who were orthodox in their religious belief. In enforcing compulsory residence in the barracks the Government did not at all consult the feelings of the native clerks. While the native clerks are thus compelled, to live in barracks provided byGovernment or to forego their house-rent allowances, the European or Eurasian employes are allowed the option of living or not in the cottage which had been built for them. If they do not choose to occupy the houses which the Government has provided for them, they are granted house-rent allowance in the usual way. It is a great pity that such an invidious distinction should be made between European and native clerks. The native clerks who find it impossible to live in the Government barracks have to make their own arrangements for their accommodation and pay house-rent from their pockets. This is a very great hardship, specially in an expensive place like Simla where everything is so awfully dear. Native clerks drawing above Rs. 150 a month are given the option of living in the barracks or not; and if they do not choose to do so, they are granted *bona fide* house-rent allowance not exceeding the maximum laid down in the rules. We do not see any reason why the same consideration should not be shown to the native clerks drawing Rs. 150 and under. We commend their hard case to the favourable consideration of the Government of India.

LORD RIPON ON INDIAN FINANCE.

IN the course of an address delivered to the members of the Manchester Chamber of Commerce, on the 19th ultimo, Lord Ripon discussed at some length the question of Indian finance and taxation. Although His Lordship did not say anything new, yet the views expressed by him demand more than a passing notice, as the matters involved are of vital importance to the Indian tax-payer. Speaking to a Manchester audience, it was only natural that the late Viceroy should defend the abolition of the cotton duties. He said:—"The progress of cotton manufacture in India was a matter of general and scientific interest. During the time he was in India the whole of the duties which had been levied on cotton goods were entirely removed, and consequently free trade was established in India, not only as regarded cotton, but also as regarded almost all other articles. It was said that the effect of that policy would be to put an end to the local manufacture of cotton goods, throwing a large number of Natives out of employment, and crushing a nascent industry. The change was made in 1882. In 1883 the statistics of cotton spinning and weaving in India were as follow:—There were 62 mills, with 1,654,000 spindles, 15,111 looms, and employing 536,000 persons; in 1885 there were 81 mills, with over two million spindles, 16,000 looms and employing 5,56,000 persons. He contended that he was justified in declaring that, whatever was the effect of the free-trade, policy which he initiated, it was not to destroy and pull down Native industry. He should have been exceedingly sorry if it had had that effect. He did not in establishing free-trade act with the object of benefiting Lancashire and with the object of benefiting his own countrymen. He introduced free-trade because he believed that it was a sound financial and economical system, and he thought so still. These statistics had no unimportant bearing on the question of free-trade. They showed that the people of India had been benefited with damage to a local industry, and he felt great pleasure in looking back on that part of his administration and its results." The fact that the abolition of the cotton duties has not destroyed the local industry furnishes no justification for the surrender of an unobjectionable source of income. We have from the beginning strongly condemned the needless and wanton sacrifice of revenue caused by the remission of taxation which was carried out in 1882. There was really no surplus at the disposal of Government in 1882-83 to justify this measure; and even if there had been any, it should have been applied to remission of the export duty on rice. Lord Ripon claims to have conferred upon the people of India the advantages of free-trade. Free-trade may be a sound financial and fiscal system; but the hard fact remains that England the great apostle of free-trade, raises no less than twenty millions of revenue from import duties. Lord Ripon conveniently ignores or over-looks this fact. Mr. Gladstone, in his famous Leeds speech declared in the plainest and most emphatic language, that the principles of free-trade do not preclude the taxation of the imported luxuries, which forms the basis of the fiscal system of England. When free-trade does not prevent England raising twenty millions a year by taxing imported luxuries, poor India should not have been made to surrender an unobjectionable source of revenue at the instance of the cotton lords of Lancashire. It cannot be contended with any show of reason

that the cotton duties which Lord Ripon swept away in 1882 were protective in their operation. They were levied on the finer kinds of goods which are not produced in this country, and cannot be produced for a long time to come. Lord Ripon tells us that he did not establish free-trade with the object of benefiting Lancashire. Say what his Lordship may, no amount of argument or assurance will convince the people of India of the truth of this statement.

Lord Ripon touched upon the silver question and insisted on its magnitude and importance to the people of India. But his Lordship candidly acknowledged that he had no remedy to propose for putting a stop to the heavy loss by exchange which in the Budget for the current year is estimated at nearly 5 crores of rupees. The late Viceroy, however, pertinently observed that in looking at the question of Indian finance, it should be distinctly borne in mind that the revenue of India is practically stationary, and at the same time the power of taxation in the country is limited within very narrow bounds. He pointed out that the land tax having been permanently fixed in Bengal and for a term of years in the other provinces, no substantial increase in it could be looked for. As regards the salt-tax, Lord Ripon urged that it should be regarded as a financial reserve, and must therefore be kept low, in order that when an emergency arise, there might be some substantial tax to fall back upon. This is a very weak defence for the reduction of the salt duties—a measure which involved sacrifice of revenue to the extent of nearly a million and-a-half, or double the yield of the irritating and unpopular Income-tax which has been recently imposed. It must not be forgotten that if the future exigencies of the State should necessitate an enhancement of the salt-tax, the raising of the duty after having been once lowered would produce serious discontent. Lord Ripon next referred to the opium revenue and stated that the estimated revenue this year is over seven and a half millions. His Lordship remarked :—" That was a very large revenue in India, and while it was easy for platform speakers in this country to make light of a paltry eight millions of finance, that amount could not be got back in Indian revenue by a stroke of the pen. If the English people wanted to get rid of the opium traffic, they would have to find the money out of their own pockets, because he defied them, with justice to the Indian tax-payers, to find that amount in India. He knew that the tax was open to great objections ; it was also open to financial objections, because it was so intensely speculative. But the question which lay at the bottom of the matter was, how were they going to produce from Indian sources the revenue which they now get from opium ? A convention had recently been made with China on this question, and he would look with interest to see the effect of that ; and in the mean time he felt bound to say that nothing could be more injurious to the interests of this country in India than that anything should be done under the present conditions of that country with regard to finance, which would lead the people of India to suppose that they were, in accordance with special views of our own, forcing upon them unpopular taxation." There can be no doubt as to the soundness of the principle laid down by Lord Ripon ; but it is a great pity that his lordship did not work it out in its application, to the repeal of the cotton duties. If he had done so, he could not have taken credit unto himself for surrendering an unobjectionable source of revenue for the benefit of English manufacturers. It cannot be denied that unpopular taxation in the shape of the license tax—now developed into the income-tax—was forced upon the people of India in 1878 in order to fill the gap which would be caused by the total remission of the cotton duties. And this was done because the Cotton Lords of Manchester, who are possessed of immense political influence, had demanded the abolition of the cotton duties for their benefit, and no political party in England could afford to lose the Lancashire vote. After reviewing the sources of Indian revenue and means of taxation, the late Viceroy urged with great force that it was absolutely necessary that the expenditure should be kept down as much as possible. He expressed the opinion that Indian finance was sound if a careful and cautious policy were pursued, both as regarded revenue and expenditure and also as regarded credit, but the margin with which financiers had to deal was very small indeed. That being the case, the late Viceroy committed a great blunder, in surrendering, for the sake of Lancashire and Liverpool, two and a-half-millions of revenue, which did not at all press upon the people of India. Time, the great vindicator of truth, has conclusively shown that in remitting taxation in 1882 the late Viceroy did not pursue " a careful and cautious policy."

THE EXODUS TO THE HILLS.

THE *Pioneer* announces that the Finance Committee have been asked to consider the expediency and economy of locating permanently at Calcutta or Simla the head-quarters offices of the Imperial Public Departments. We think the wider and more important question of the annual exodus to the hills should be referred to the Committee for consideration and report. It is a matter which demands attention in connection with any measures for reduction of expenditure. The public do not know what the annual exodus to the hills actually costs. Last year Mr. Gorst, in his place in the House of Commons, moved for a return giving information as to the cost of these annual emigrations, to the hills, and the Under-Secretary of State for India promised to furnish the desired information. But the promise has not yet been fulfilled, and there is no knowing when the return moved for will be laid upon the table of the House. We trust some member of Parliament will interpellate the Under-Secretary of State on the subject at an early date. Nearly a twelve-month has elapsed since the return was asked for, and it is high time that it should be submitted.

If the Finance Committee are not to content, themselves with recommending economies of the cheese-paring type they should consider thoroughly the financial results of the system under which the Viceroy, Governors, Lieutenant-Governors, Chief Commissioners and heads of offices spend eight months of the year on the hills, accompanied by large office establishments and the majority of their subordinates. The whole press of the country, Anglo-Indian and Indian, is for once unanimous in condemning these annual migrations as involving a frivolous and unnecessary waste of public money and a neglect of the public interests. The present system of annual exodus to the hills, the reader knows, dates from the time of Lord Lawrence's Viceroyalty. Lord William Bentinck, we believe, was the first Governor-General who visited Simla and Lord Auckland was the first who made any prolonged stay there. It was at Simla that the first and second Afghan wars which have ever since made an honest alliance with the Afghans impossible, were planned. Some of Lord Auckland's successors occasionally visited Simla, but they never thought of making it their summer retreat Lord Lawrence accepted the Viceroyalty on the condition that he should be permitted to reside at Simla during the hot weather. As he was an old man, there were good reasons for making an exception in his favour ; but since his time the annual exodus to the hills has become an established institution of the land. We do not know whether Lord Lawrence made it a condition that he should be accompanied to Simla by the members of the Executive Council and the Secretaries to the Government of India. As a matter of fact, he took his colleagues and the Secretariats up to Simla every hot season during his reign. Lord Mayo lengthened the stay of the Supreme Government at its summer capital and increased the number of departments and officials accompanying it. Lord Northbrook was not much in favor of the annual exodus to the hills. His Lordship wished to put down the practice ; but he could not fulfil his wish, as the influence of his surroundings was too much for him. The Provincial Governments, as might be expected, have not been slow to follow in this matter the example set by the Supreme Government. Each Local Government not excepting even the Chief Commissioner of the Central Provinces, now removes annually for six or seven months to its own summer capital. It is accompanied by a host of clerks to whom this annual migration is a source of serious expense and inconvenience. Until the return moved for by Mr. Gorst is published the public cannot know what the actual cost of these annual migrations is ; but we think that on the most moderate calculation it amounts to something like a quarter of a million. The other consequences produced by this system of exodus to the hills are even more important than the pecuniary considerations involved in the matter. Indeed, the expenditure incurred by these annual migrations, altogether fails to represent the indirect loss which is caused to the country by this transfer of the seat of Government to the hill-capital during the greater part of the year. The waste of public time in the case of the Supreme Government is not less than a month yearly. As a fortnight is occupied in removing the offices to Simla and another fortnight in bringing them back to the Presidency it follows that one-twelfth of the working year is lost. In the case of the Local Governments the loss of time may not be so great ; but still it is considerable. But the greatest evil resulting from the exodus to the hills is, that during the greater part of the year the Government is removed from healthy contact with independent opinion and shut up in a narrow circle of officialism. It cannot be denied that such public opinion, and independent criticism as there are in India are to be found only in the Presidency-towns, and, in a lesser degree, in the provincial capitals. It is no light evil that the Government should be out of the reach of the wholesome effect of these for over half of the year.

The permanent location at Simla of the head-quarter offices of the Imperial Public Departments will doubtless reduce to some extent the travelling charges now incurred for the annual migrations. But expenditure will be increased in another way. Under the present system a small number of clerks are taken up annually to Simla, who during thier stay there draw extra allowances. But when the offices are permanently located at the summer capital, the whole the establishment will have to be taken up there, and allowances granted to the clerks will have to be continued throughout the year. This will be a source of additional expenditure. For some time past the offices of the Surgeon-General, Army Medical Department, the Surgeon-General and Sanitary Commissioner with the Government of India, the Director-General of Railways, the Inspector-General of Military Works, and the General Superintendent of Thuggy and Dacoity, have had their head-quarters permanently located at Simla, and no advantage to the public interests has resulted from the arrangement. It is of course quite agreeable to the European head of these offices, who find in Simla an English climate and plenty of amusements. But what is sport to them is death to the poor Indian clerks. The sufferings of these men during cold season know no bounds, and can be better imagined than described. In winter the poor Indian clerks, chilled by intense cold, are hardly able to go through half the quantity of work which they can perform in the bracing climate of the plains during that season. The Financial Committee should carefully consider all this. If they unfortunately decide in favour of locating permanently at Simla the head-quarter offices of the Imperial Public Departments, they are in common fairness bound to consider whether the salaries of the European officials in their departments should not be curtailed. We are told that the European servants of the Indian Government ought to receive more pay than their Indian brethern for doing the same work, as a compensation for the disadvantages and discomforts of living in a tropical climate. Now, the European officers connected with the offices where head-quarters are permanently located on the hills have no claim whatever for compensation. They do not reside in a tropical climate. Indeed, they enjoy at Simla throughout the year a climate much better than that of their own country. It is, therefore, only fair that the salaries of these officers should be cut down by one-third, which is supposed to represent the compensation payable to them for living in a tropical climate. This ought also to be done even if the Finance Committee should decide in favour of the retention of the present system of the head-quarter offices of the Imperial Public Departments. An Englishman who spends

the cold weather in the plains and the hot season on the hills, lives in the finest and best climate in the world. Let the salaries of all European servants of the State who pass the hot weather and the rains in a hill station be reduced by one-third, and we shall no more hear of these annual migrations, or of the desirability of permanently locating at Simla the head-quarter offices of the Imperial Public Departments. The suggestion we have made demands the serious consideration of the Finance Committee. The Government, being trustee of the public revenue, are not justified in spending one shilling of this revenue unnecessarily, and consequently they are bound to disallow the compensation granted to Europeans for living in a tropical climate, when these officials are allowed to spend the hot weather in a hill sanitarium.

LATEST NEWS AND NOTES

WE have been requested to announce that the Hare Anniversary will be held at the Science Association Rooms. Bowbazar at 5, P. M., on Tuesday next. Dr. Mahendralala Sircar will we understand, deliver an address, and Mr.Cotton will preside. No anniversary could for various reasons be held for the last three years and we trust that there will be a goodly attendance to do honor to the memory of a man than whom few Europeans deserved the sincere and heart-felt gratitude of India.

THE INDIAN JUDGES of the Calcutta High Court had hitherto never been allowed to preside at the Criminal Sessions of that Court. Nothing in the Royal Charter establishing the Court, nor in the subsequent Letters Patent, justified the keeping up of such an invidious distinction, and the Chiefs could never get the better of the feeble and maudlin sentimentalistic horror of every thing "native" which stood in the way. It was reserved for Sir William Comer Petheram, destined to be an honored name in Bengal as it most deservedly has been in the North-Western Provinces, to do away with this monstrous injustice, and we learn with genuine joy and thankfulness that Mr. Justice Mitra will preside at the next Criminal Sessions. We trust that it may not be impossible to arrange for his and Mr. Justice Ghose's exercising Original Civil Jurisdiction as well.

THERE IS a ring of the true metal in Mr. Cruikshank's liberal, manly, and outspoken speech at the last annual meeting of the Chamber of Commerce which deserves every commendation There is in it no beating about the bush, no see-sawing, no vacillation, no hedging in, or attempt at extenuation, or apology, which disfigures most speeches in the present day. Mr. Curikshank spoke frankly and freely, and hit the right nail on the head with unerring certainty. His remarks about short lengths in piece goods were just what we would expect from an honest man giving out his opinion without fear or favor. In fact, by speaking as he did, Mr. Cruikshank has trodden on the corns of many, and that shows that he has the courage of his opinion. It is idle all to talk of competition, requirements of special markets, wishes of native dealers, who, dumb creatures, are always trotted out when something fishy has to be gilded or varnished over. The plea about the dealers, wishes is just as good as that of the engraver who sinks a die for a rupee for a false coiner or a steel plate for a bank note for a forger, and then says he did so because his customer asked him to do so. It matters not a farthing whether it is the manufacturer, or the merchant, or exporter fixes a 40 yard brand upon a 37 yard piece of cloth; whoever does it is guilty of fraud or being accessory to a fraud, and public morality and the good name of English Commerce demand that he should be condignly punished. That he has not yet been so punished is a disgrace to British Commerce, and Mr. Cruikshank, as a true Englishman, does well in insisting upon the laws of morality being unflinchingly enforced.

IT IS impossible yet to foresee what direction the Irish Home Rule Scheme will take. Although peace and conciliation is Mr. Gladstone's sole end and object, the Government, for reasons best known to itself finds it necessary to continue the Arms Act for some time yet in Ireland. A Bill to give effect to this was introduced in the House of Commons by the Chief Secretary for Ireland on the 6th instant, and the House read, it for the second time on the 20th instant, after a long and animated discussion. Mr. Gladstone, we are told, undertook to enforce the Act impartially. In this explanation we are inclined to guess the necessity of the continuance of such a law although as a temporary measure. The premier evidently thinks, and not without very grave reasons, that the defeat or success of his grand measure will infuriate one of the parties concerned, and the so-called Loyalists as well as the Home Rulers are prone to rush to arms as soon as anything turns up in disfavour of either party. In the very debate under notice we have ample evidence of this. Lord Randolph Churchill told the House that the Loyalists would be justified in forcibly resisting the consequences of Home Rule. The Bill has since been read for the third time.

GENERAL Hughes, Military Member of the Supreme Council, died at Simla on Monday last. His health was bad when he was called to fill the exalted situation a few months ago, and he had to abandon an intended trip to England for the benefit of his health. He never felt very well after that, and his complaints gradually took a serious turn and alarmed his medical advisers, and have now ended fatally. The Governor-General in Council issued a *Gazette* Extraordinary to express the sense of loss sustained by Government by his demise. His short tenure of office hardly afforded the public opportunity to form a fair estimate of his worth and ability as a Councillor, but he had given ample evidence of both as Inspector-General of Ordnances and in other capacities. Colonel Newmarch officiates for him pending the appointment of a permanent incumbent in his place. The Birth Day Ball at Simla was put off for a week on account of the General's death. Colonel Collen, it is said, will officiate for Colonel Newmarch as Military Secretary.

THE death of the Raja of Manipore is announced. The melancholy event took place on May 20, and no sooner had the heir-apparent taken the Guddy on the old Rajah's death than disturbances broke out in the unfortunate State. A relative of the Raja set up his claim, and two days' fighting followed, resulting in the defeat of the pretender. Mr. Dally, the Political Resident has gone with 200 frontier police to capture him,and to open communications with Manipore which have been stopped. The old Rajah Chandra Kirti Sing, who ascended the throne in 1850, after a chequered exile in the British territories, was a staunch and devoted ally of the British Government. The State suffered a deal from Burmese excursions during the successive Burmese wars, and the rulers of Manipore never failed to render important services in operations against the enemies of the British Government. Rajah Chandra Kirti's services in the Naga campaign, when all the troops and resources of the State were placed at the disposal of the British Government, earned him a K. C. S. I. During the last Burmese war the Rajah displayed his ardent friendship for the British by materially assisting Colonel Johnstone in the Chindwin Valley Expedition. Steps, have, we understand been taken to preserve peace on the frontier.

IT NEVER required any keen foresight to apprehend that the "too-weak-for-war-and-too-strong-for-peace mission" about to start for Thibet under Mr. Colman Macaulay's auspicies would not be allowed to approach the frontier without objection, and we said so long ago. Our conjectures are now confirmed. The Chinese Government, telegraphs Reuter, has sent a communication to the British Government recommending that the Mission should be reduced in numbers and strictly limited to commercial objects, as was originally proposed, otherwise the Tibetans will oppose the progress of the party in the country, owing to its composition. Could it be that the British Government had calculated without its host, that the Chinese Government should thus turn round and send in a patronising warning at the eleventh hour after furnishing Mr. Macaulay with the necessary credentials? It will be next to impossible for the British complacently to swallow theChinese pill consistently with honor and self-respect. And it is evidently not contemplated to take any notice of the warning, or else the ForeignOffice would have taken good care not to give it premature publicity, for it could not stand the show even of being compelled to do a thing against its own wishes and desires. Surely the ChineseGovernment could not have any reason to suspect that the mission had any *other* object than commercial, excepting perhaps the subservent objects of science and art. Lord Dufferin's Government, however, let us hope, will have the prudence so to arrange matters as to avoid all unpleasantness and collision, and not bring the mission to odium of which there seems to be a strong chance.

WE TAKE the following from the *Indian Daily News*: "The Howrah Municipal Commissioners recently elected Babu Wopendro Chunder Mitter, B. L., to be the Chairman of the Howrah Municipal Board. They requested the District Magistrate to ask the Local Government to confirm the election. The Magistrate made certain objections to the appointment. The Local Government, on the objections of the District Magistrate, backed by the Commissioner of the Burdwan Division, refused to sanction the appointment. The matter will again be brought forward at the next meeting of the Municipal Commissioners of Howrah for their consideration." Babu Woopendro Chunder, by his independence of character, has, we are aware, sinned in the eyes of Government, Magistrate, Collector and Commissioner and has paid his penalty. But we are at a loss to understand as to what objections could be taken to his appointment as Chairman of the Howrah Municipality, when the majority of Commissioners have elected him. We are not prepared to risk any opinion without knowing what precise objections have been taken and hope that the Government will, without delay, and in public interest vouchsafe an explanation. Pressure, we remember, was brought to bear upon the Commissioners for the election of the Magistrate and the election of a "native" may not unnaturally have incensed the powers that be. We trust, unless there be something really objectionable to Babu Wopendra Chunder Mitter's appoinment, theCommissioners will out of self-respect and forthe stability of self-Government in Bengal,stand upon theirconstitutional privileges, and insist on the appointment of their nominee. Local self-Government is but on its trial, and we do not know what to think of a Government that openly professes to further its cause and yet in practice does an all in its power to stifle and neutralise the scheme in its very inception.

WE FIND from the Birth-day Honors *Gazette* that the title of K. C. S. I has been conferred upon the Hon. Mr. Hope, Mr. Bernard, Nawab Khwaja Abdul Ghuni of Dakka, and Mr.Plowden, tale of the Bengal Civil Service. Mr. Mackenzie has been made a C.S I. and Sett. Luchmundas of Mutra a C.I.E. The title of Raja Bhahadur as a personal distinction has been conferred upon Kumar Rameshwar Singh, of Darbhanga; and Kumar Rajendra Narayan Roy Chowdry, zemindar of Bhowal in the district of Dakka. Baboo Mohesh Chunder Chukrabutty of Jessore comes in for a Rai Babadurship and Moulavi Mahammad Ali Khan of Dinajpore for a Khan Bahadoorship.

THE Home Rule debate continues to drag on its protracted length, and there is no knowing when it is to end. It is said, however, that Mr. Gladstone has offered to make many important concessions, and there is a fair prospect now of his winning back his recusant adherents, and Mr. Chamberlain will be satisfied with the concessions proposed. As a member of the Liberal

Cabinet Mr. Chamberlain is an important personage ; out of it he is yet a long way off for a weighty leadership. He cannot fight for his own hand, and he knows it well. It is to be expected, therefore, that he will readily submit to a compromise. Most of the other recalictrant Liberals, if not all, will follow suit, and the game, therefore, may be looked upon as being fairly in the hands of the Grand Old Man.The threat of a dissolution of Parliament is too potent to be neglected, and the Conservatives are now too weak to take the helm with any prospect of holding office for any reasonable time. The Irish difficulty must be solved before any prospect of peaceful administration can be looked for. Coercion is no remedy, and the Conservatives, however united they may be, have not, with their coercion policy, the most distant chance of success. Extermination of the Catholic Irish race may do. But public opinion in England will never permit it. To us the most remarkable fact in connexion with the present discussions is the open preaching of sedition and rebellion which the Conservatives are indulging in through Lord Churchill and other persons of the rank of cabinet ministers.

THE Greeko-Turkish imbroglio is near at an end. King George has issued an order demobilising the army andwithdrawing his troops from the Turkish frontier, and the Great Powers are about to raise the blocade of the Greek ports. Reuter has, however, sent us no information yet as to the terms, promises, or assurances which the Great Powers have given regarding the claim of King George. The Porte claimed compensation for the expenses it has been put to by the threatening attitude which Greece assumed towards it, but, we suppose, no notice will be taken of the wrongs of the "sick man."

THE Maharani of Tikari, we regret to have to announce is dead. She had been suffering from a variety of complaints ever since her confinement in the damp Varandah of an ordinary Bunglow nine months ago where the Court of Wards forced her to reside. She succumbed on the 27th instant. She had experienced most stormy days of late, thanks to the kind and considerate attention of our rulers for her welfare, which she was gratuitously supposed to know or understand nothing about. Mischievous people are inclined to insinuate that the privations she was subjected to may not have been without considerable influence on her health of late, and rumours are rife that a zealous Court of Wards manager grudged her costly medical attendance because forsooth the attendant was a distinguished "native" kaviraj from Calcutta. These are grave charges to make and perhaps not worth while making now that she has passed away. After life's fitful fever she sleeps well.The Government has done but a poor and rather absurd sort of atonement by gazetting her a Maharani four days after her death. A veritable irony of fate. She was but 22 yearsof age.

OF all the melancholy events it is our painful duty to a record this week, the death of Babu Akshoy Coomar Dutt on Thursday last is the most grievous, His name was a household word in Bengal, and who that boasts of education in this country has not been struck and charmed with his racy, vigorous yet lucid style ? Depth of thought, and honesty of opinion were his main characteristics, and he had made his mark as an author and a man of letters from an early age, when he was best known in connection with the *TatwabodhiniSabha* and *Tatwabvdhini Patrika*. His *Charupathas*, and *Manab Prakritir Sahit Bahya Bastur Sambandha Bichara*, though claiming no great originality stand unrivalled in point of composition, and justly earned him the glorious distinction as the Addison of Bengal. Cerebral complaints had unfittedhim for all serious literary endeavours so far back as 1862,and caused a premature retirement from the literary world, to no mean loss to the country. In his quiet retreat at Bally, however, he usefully spent his time, and it was here that the second part of the *Varatvarser Upashak Samprodya* was composed. He courted the muse at an early age under the auspicies of Issur Chunder Gupta, but his efforts in this direction do not seem to have been as sucessful as in that of prose. His spotless character, domestic virtues, unimpeachable private life, and social qualities made him revered and esteemed by all who knew him, and his loss will be mourned by not the literary public alone but by a large number of friends and acquaintances. He was 66 years of age at his death. To his bereaved family sincere and heartfelt condolence is all that lies in our power to offer.

TELEGRAMS.

THE English and Russian Commissions were at Andkhin on the 20th instant and were to leave for the Oxus on the 25th.

THE Czar arrived at Moscow enroute to St. Petersburg from Livadia on the 26th. The Mayor in an address which was presented to his Majesty said that the restoratiou of the Russian fleet in the Black Sea strengthened the belief that the Christian Cross would yet shine in the place of the Mahammedan crescent over the dôme of the Mosque of St. Sophia at Constantinople. His Majesty, in his reply, however, avoided all reference to this part of the address.

THE Rana of Dholepar has arrived at Simla.

THE following it the result of the race for the Derby :—Ormonde 1, The Bard 2, Staint Mirin 3.

THERE is a vague but widely spread rumour in Madras to the effect that Mr. Grant Duff has felt it due to his political reputation to mark his disapproval of Mr. Gladstone's Irish policy by placing his resignation in the hands of the Secretary of State, and that the latter has requested the Governor to retain office till the expiration of the usual quinquennial term in November.

THE House of Lords has again thrown out, on the second reading, the Bill for legalising marriage with a deceased wife's sister by 149 against 127 votes.

THE death is announced of Field Marshal Sir John Michel, G. C. B. Our "only General" may now look forward to the vacant Field Marshallship.

AT A cabinet council held at Paris on May 26, a Bill was prepared anthorising the minister of the interior to expell the French Princes from France under severe penalties and imprisonment in case of non-compliance. The Bill was introduced into the chamber of Deputies the following day. Urgency has been voted for the Bill.

DR. DE JONGH' LIGHT-BROWN COD LIVER OIL.—ITS UNEQUALLED EFFICACY IN DISEASES OF THE THROAT.—Sir G. Duncan Gibb, Bart, M. D. LL. D. Physician and Lecturer on Forensic Medicine, Westminister Hospital, author of various works on Diseases of the Throat and Laeynx, writes :—"The experience of many years has abundantly proved the truth of every word said in favour of Dr. de Jongh's Light-Brown Cod Liver Oil by many of our first Physicians and Chemists, thus stamping him as a high authority and an able Chemist whose investigations have remained unquestioned. Its value, therefore, as a therapeutic agent in a number of diseases, chiefly of an exhaustive character, has been admitted by the world of medicine ; but in addition, I have found it a remedy of great power in the treatment of many Affections of the Throat and Larynx, especially inConsumption of the latter, where it will sustain life when everything else fails. Dr. de Jongh's Light-Brown Cod Liver Oil has an agreeable flavour, is very palatable, and liked by children ; hence its value in the third stage of Hooping-Cough, when it acts as a restorative and tonic." Dr. de Jongh's Light-Brown Cod Liver Oil is sold only in capsuled imperial half-pints, pints, and quarts, with his stamp and signature and the signature of his sole consignees on the capsule and the label under wrapper by all chemists druggists and storekeepers. Sole Consignees, Ansar, Harford and Co., 210, High Holborn, London.

Government Notifications

Calcutta Gazette,—*May 26, 1886.*

GENERAL.—BABOO Koomud Nath Mookerjee, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Manbhoom, is transferred to Midnapore, and is appointed to have charge of the Ghattal sub-division of that district.

Mr. E. G. Glazier, C. S., reported his departure from India, on special leave, on the 30 th April 1886.

Baboo Sant Prasad, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Gya, on deputation, is allowed leave for fourteen days, under section 72, chapter V of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from the 1st proximo.

Baboo Kader Nath Banerji, Sub-Deputy Collector, Midnapore, is allawed leave for twenty-one days, under section 72 chapter V of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from the 2nd roximo.

Mr. C. C. Quinn, Magistrate and Collector, Patna, acted in the first grade of Magistrates and Collectors from the 11th to the 14th April 1886, both days inclusive, *vice* Mr. T. E. Coxhead, on leave.

Mr. H. S. Beadon, Magistrate and collector, Dinageporc acted in the first grade of Magistrates and collectors from the 11th to the 14th April 1886, both days inclusive, *vice* Mr. E G. Glazier, on leave.

Mr. C. A. Samuells, Officiating Collector of customs, Calcutta, is apoointed to act, until further orbers in the second grade of Magistrates and collectors with effect from the 2nd April 1886, *vice* Mr. J. Scobell Armstrong, on furlough.

Mr. F. H. B. Skrine Officiating Magistrate and Collector, Tipperah, on leave, is appointed to act, until further orders, in the second grade of Magistrates and Collectors, with effect from the 8th April 1886, *vice* the late Mr. J. E. B. Jeffery on furlough.

Mr. Skrine also acted in that grade from the 7th March to the 7th April 1886, both days inclusive, *vice* Mr. C. C. Quinn.

Mr. A. W. Paul, Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector from the 8th to the 13th April 1886, both days inclusive *vice* Mr. C. C. Quinn.

Mr. R. Cornish, Officiating Magistrate and collector, Midnapore acted in the second grade of Magistrates and collectors from the 11th to the 14 April 1886, both days inclusive, *vice* Mr. C. C. H. S. Beadon.

Mr. Cornish also acted in that grade from the 15th to the 17th April 1886, both days inclusive, *vice* Mr. C. C, Quinn.

JUICIAL DEPARTMENT.—The Lieutenant-Governor accepts rhe resignation tendered by Baboo Gagan Chandra Chowdhuty of his appointment as an Honorary Magistrate for the Brahmanberiah Sub-divisional Bench, in the district of Tipperah.

The Lieutenant-Governor accepts the resignation tendered by Baboo Mon Mohon Roy of his appointment as an Honorary Magistrate for the Sub-divisional Bench at Commillah, in the district of Tipperah.

Baboo Ishan Chandra Roy is appointed to be an Honorary Magistrate for the Sub-divisional Bench at Commillah, in the district of Tipperah, and is vested with the powers of a Magistrate of the third class.

The Lieutenant-Governor accepts the resignation tendered by Baboo Surja Kanth Acharjya Chaudhury of his appointment of Honorary Magistrate of the Sudder or Nassirabad Bench, in the district of Mymensingh.

Baboo Ram churn Mullic, M. A., B. L., is appointed to act as a Munsif in the district of the 24-Pergunnahs, to be ordinarily stationed at Baraset, during the absence, on leave, of Baboo Haris chunder Sein, or until further orders.

Baboo Atul Behary Ghose, First Munsif of Baraset, 24-Pergunnahs, is appointed temporarily to be Rent Suit Munsif of that chowkey, during the absence, on leave, of Baboo Haris Chunder Sein.

Baboo Ambica charan Mookerjee, B. L. is appointed to act asa Munsif in the district of Gya, to be ordinarily stationed at the Sudder station, during the absence, on leave, of Baboo Debendro chunder Mookerjee, or until further orders.

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Dated 26th May, 1886 } PEARY LALL ROY, *Chairman.*

Notice.

Two Sub-Naib Ahelkars are required by His Highness the Maharajah Bhup Bahadur of Cooch Behar for the Sub-Divisions of Mathabhanga and Dinhatta, one on Rs. 125, the other on Rs. 100. Only B. L s. need apply, and an agreement for 3 years' service in the State will be acompulsory condition. All applications to the addressed to the Vice-President, State Council, and none will be received later than the 15th of June next.

COOCH BEHAR, *Dated 26th May, 1886.* } MAJOR A. EVANS-GORDON *Vice-President,* State Council Cooch Behar.

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25 students will recaive Freeships in the Entrance class, provided they prove to the satisfaction of the Secretary that they deserve them and take their admission before the 1st of June.

As the teaching of English is usually very defective in most schools of Bengal, the Managing Board of the Bangabasi School is very happy to have secured the services of several gentlemen who, besides being distinguished graduates of the Calcutta University, have also had the advantage of education in England. Among these are Baboos Giris Chunder Bose M.A., M. R. A. C. F. C. S. etc, late Professor of the Cuttack College, Bhupal Chandra Basu B. A., M. R. A. C., etc Byomkes Chakravarti M. A., M. B. A. C., late Prof, of the Sheebpore Engineering College, A. K. Roy, M. A. R. A. C. & C. and Aghore Nath Chatterji M. R. C. P. etc. The Schooling fees will be Rs. 4 per mensem for the upper three classes, and Rs. 2 for the lower three; but in special cases they may be reduced to one half; admission fees the same as monthly fees. The Schooling fee for the Agricultural classes is Rs. 5.

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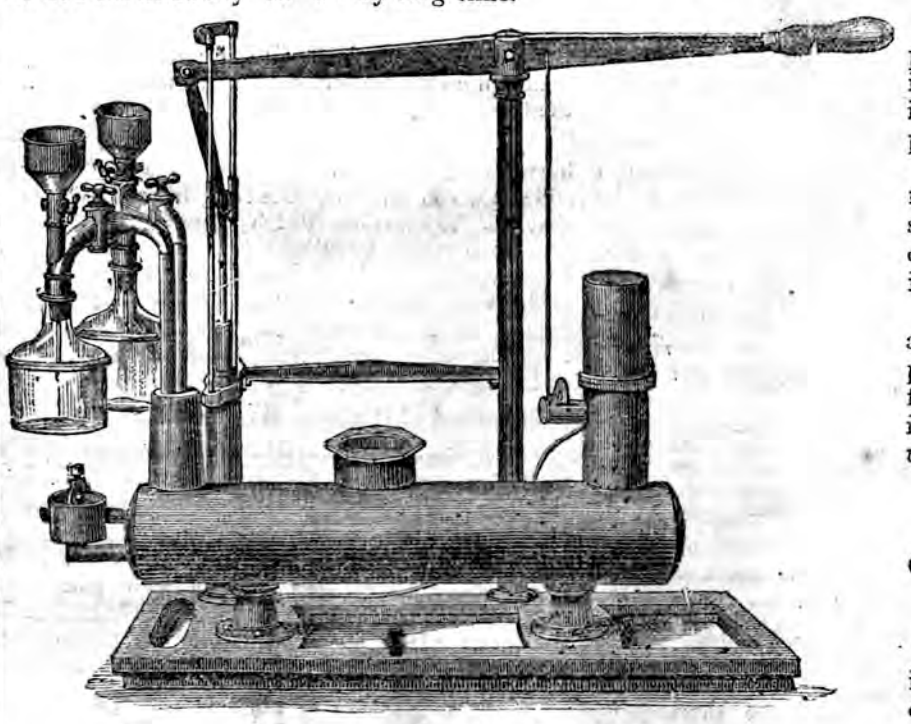

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